

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-40 (cancelled)

**41. (currently amended)** A method of preventing or treating loss of bone mass associated with cancer in a mammal comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an OPG fusion polypeptide comprising ~~the amino acid sequence at least about amino acid residues 22 to 194~~ as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) ~~or a truncated OPG polypeptide thereof~~, and a therapeutically effective amount of a cancer therapy agent.

**42. (currently amended)** A method for preventing abnormal bone formation associated with cancer in a mammal comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an OPG fusion polypeptide comprising ~~the amino acid sequence at least about amino acid residues 22 to 194~~ as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) ~~or a truncated OPG polypeptide thereof~~, and a therapeutically effective amount of a cancer therapy agent.

Claims 43-46 (cancelled)

**47. (currently amended)** The method of Claims 41 or 42 wherein the OPG fusion polypeptide comprises amino acid residues 22-194 inclusive or amino acid residues 22-201 inclusive as shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO: 2).

**Claim 48 (cancelled)**

**49. (currently amended)** The method of Claims 41 or 42 ~~48~~ wherein the OPG fusion polypeptide comprises a fusion of an Fc region to the N-terminal or C-terminal end of the OPG polypeptide.

50. (currently amended) The method of Claims 41 or 42 ~~48~~ wherein the OPG fusion polypeptide comprises an Fc region fused to amino acid residues 22-194 of Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO: 2).

51. (currently amended) The method of Claims 41 or 42 ~~48~~ wherein the OPG fusion polypeptide comprises an Fc region fused to amino acid residues 22-201 of Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO: 2).

52. (currently amended) The method of Claims 41 or 42 ~~48~~ wherein the OPG fusion polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO: 5) or in Figure 8 (SEQ ID NO: 8).

53. (currently amended) The method of Claims 41 or 42 wherein the OPG fusion polypeptide is administered prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to administration of a cancer therapy agent.

54. (previously presented) The method of Claim 41 wherein the cancer has metastasized to bone.

55. (previously presented) The method of Claim 41 wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, prostate cancer, thyroid cancer, cancer of the kidney, lung cancer, esophageal cancer, rectal cancer, bladder cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, liver cancer, cancer of the gastrointestinal tract, multiple myeloma, and lymphoma.

56. (previously presented) The method of Claims 41 or 42 wherein the cancer therapy agent is chemotherapy.

57. (previously presented) The method of Claim 56 wherein chemotherapy comprises anthracyclines, taxol, tamoxifene, doxorubicin, and 5-fluorouracil.

58. (previously presented) The method of Claims 41 or 42 wherein the therapeutically effective amount of an OPG polypeptide is from about 0.1 mg/kg to about 10 mg/kg.